[31st October 1935

Appendix I.

[Vide answer to question No. 322 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 31st October 1935, page 234 supra.]

Statement of the units sold in municipal areas, Salem and Erode.

Month.	1932.		1933.		1934.		1935.	
	Total consumers in Municipal area in Salem.	Consumers in Municipal area in Erode.	Total consumers in Municipal area in Salem.	Consumers in Municipal area in Erode.	Total consumers in Municipal area in Salem.	Consumers in Municipal area in Erode.	Total consumers in Municipal area in Salem.	Consumers in Municipal area in Erode.
January	..	..	19,857	1,344	33,512	4,963	41,844	4,087
February ..	236	..	19,074	1,144	29,961	2,688	38,236	4,139
March	1,299	..	21,951	1,260	33,827	8,156	54,366	4,403
April	4,132	..	24,148	1,413	35,309	7,492	57,764	5,189
May	10,638	..	27,052	2,244	37,997	6,354	58,859	4,983
June	14,168	511	28,977	4,430	37,249	4,971	57,055	4,489

Appendix II.

[Vide answer to question No. 331 asked by Mr. V. Nadimuthu Pillai at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 31st October 1935, page 243 supra.]

Letter from the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works and Labour Department, to the Secretaries, the Tanjore District Delta Mirasidars and Landowners' Association, Mayavaram, dated 13*th September* 1935, *No.* 2783-*D*/35-4.

[Irrigation—Tanjore delta—Shortage of supply of water in 1935. *Reference.*—Correspondence ending with your letter to the Revenue Secretary, dated 29th August 1935.]

I am directed to state that the Government have enquired into the questions raised by you and find that the normal quantity of water was not sent down to the delta at first as the level in the Stanley reservoir at the beginning of the season was very low owing to the poor rainfall in the previous north-east monsoon. The occurrence of slips in several places in the low-level channel about the middle of July also interfered with supply for a few days. The necessary repairs were carried out with the utmost expedition and the maximum supplies permitted by the water-level in the Stanley reservoir were thereafter maintained. At a later stage in the latter part of August issues were restricted for a few days as there was heavy rain in the delta and risk of flooding. Towards the end of August there was a breach in the high-level channel and as a result issues had again to be restricted. The repair of this was taken up at once and presumably by this time conditions have returned to normal.

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I am to add that Government have arranged to keep the hydro electric pipes open, though they should have been closed finally at the beginning of August to enable work to begin on the foundations of the electric power house. By doing this they are throwing back the Mettur Hydro-Electric programme by two or three months to let the delta have the benefit of the additional few thousand cusecs that can be discharged through the hydro-electric pipes. They have therefore done everything in their power to overcome the difficulties resulting from a low reservoir and slips in the supply channels.

As regards the complaint regarding the raising of sill levels of channels under the remodelling system I am to enclose an extract of the report of the Chief Engineer on the subject.

TAMIL NADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

ENCLOSURE.

Extract of paragraph 15 *of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation's letter No.* 3417/35 *B*-2, *dated* 16*th May* 1935.

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15. The complaint is that in many cases, the sills are placed so high that when a small quantity of water is flowing in the river it does not rise above the sill. There may be a few cases where the sills might have been fixed too high and instructions were given even last year during my inspection of the delta to re-examine cases of real hardship. In all properly designed channels, the sluices in the several reaches excepting the tail reach should have their sills a little above the bed of the channel, in order to enable a proportionate supply to be carried down to the tail-end of the channel during times of shortage. Otherwise it will be only the upper sluices that will be drawing all the water and the sluices at the tail-end will not receive any supply. The arrangements made for raising the sills of old sluices and putting in silt shutters is a first step towards securing a more equitable distribution of water over the whole length of the rivers in the delta. The very fact that kuruvai seed-beds were sown in the proper season all over the usual places where kuruvai is grown in the delta and even at the tail reaches of the several rivers would show that the initial supplies given are adequate to give proportionate supplies required for all the preliminary operations and that the silt shutters did not really hinder the low supplies from being utilized at the various sluices. Later on however when transplantation of kuruvai was started there was difficulty in forcing the water to the tail reaches; when the steady supply from Mettur was interrupted on occasions due to the necessity for repairing the slips in the low level channel. This is due to the system of raised sills not having been stabilized as yet and the action of the upper ryots in tampering with the silt shutters and not to the principle of having raised sills being a wrong one. On the 3rd August the Settlement Commissioner and myself inspected the tail-end of Rajamadam Branch No. 21 under the Grand Anicut Canal system, near Rajamadam close to the sea coast. In spite of the fact that only proportionate supplies were being sent down the Rajamadam Branch canal and the distributary No. 21 and not the designed full supply, a fair quantity of water was reaching the tail-end. On a full consideration of the whole question, I am decidedly of opinion that the system of silt shutters and raised sills is a badly wanted improvement in the delta and that the ryots will in time learn to appreciate the benefits of it.

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